

CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT (CJA) TASK FORCE

California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA)
Public Safety & Victim Services Programs Division

Tuesday December 2, 2009, 10:00 AM

Cal EMA – Lower Level Conference Room
1130 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Harry Elias (Chair), Cathy Stephenson (Co-Chair), Kathleen Cady, David Casey, Leigh David Casey, Jeffrey Dent, Lee Ann Kelly, Annie Lynn, Carol O'Callaghan, Karl Porter, Richard Ruiz, Tina Mavis Williams, Dale Wilson, Barbara Yoshiko Wheeler

Members Absent: Donald Cohon, Elizabeth DeRouen, Michael Grogan, Troy Nunley, Jay Smith, Susan Torrence and Wendy Wright

Cal EMA Staff Present: Ellie Jones, Sally Hencken, Norine Hegy, Charlotte Smith and Diana Mazuka

Guests: Percy Tehada, Tribal Resource Specialist Program –TS08028589
Dry Creek Rancheria
Luke Madrigal, Tribal Resource Specialist Program–TS08028590
Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Harry Elias, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. All individuals present introduced themselves.

II. MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2009 and MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

The CJA Task Force (Task Force) reviewed and approved the minutes as submitted for both the June and September 2009 meetings.

III. CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (Cal EMA) ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sally Hencken, Victim Witness Section Chief, informed the Task Force of Leigh Bills' promotion to Domestic Violence Section Chief at Cal EMA and praised her for her success. Ms. Hencken reported that Diana Mazuka has assumed Ms. Bills' duties along with her previous caseload, and will continue to

maintain both caseloads until which time the job vacancy is filled and Diana's previous duties are reassigned.

Ms. Hencken welcomed everyone to the Cal EMA Sacramento K Street Office, and informed the Task Force that the venue for the March 4, 2010 meeting will most likely change from San Diego to Burbank, as the agency is cautious not to provide a public image that meetings are held in destination locations.

Ms. Hencken updated the Task Force on the major tasks recently undertaken by the Victim Witness Section:

Hosting the Unserved/Underserved Victims Project Directors meeting; November 16-18, 2009 in Burbank, CA. Ms. Hencken informed that for the past 10 years the Special Victims Projects, the Special Emphasis Projects and the Elder Abuse Advocacy and Outreach Projects have all been Request for Applications (RFA). In 2010, the funding for all of these projects will be collapsed into one funding source and will be redistributed in a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process. She explained that 10% of Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funding is mandated to be used for unserved/underserved population crime types. Ms. Hencken requested Listservs and /or any ideas regarding other avenues of disseminating the information regarding the RFP.

Ms. Hencken reported that the Victim Witness Section along with the entire Public Safety and Victim Services Division has recently undertaken the task of preparing the annual VOCA Report and the 2009 Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) Report. A copy of the 2008 report was passed around the table for viewing, and will be available on line.

Diana Mazuka informed The Task Force that the 2009/10 CJA Award has been received by Cal EMA. A copy of the revised 2009 budget was included in the meeting packet and illustrates an increase of \$4,918 in the Child Abduction Task Force line item.

Ms. Mazuka reported on the status of the CJA RFPs:

- The Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (CEDV) RFP is pending Reading and Rating.

- The Human Trafficking to Minors (HM) RFP was awarded to Westminster Police Department, the selection notice was sent out on November 4, 2009 and the project will be funded for \$400,000 for a grant period of January 1, 2010-December 31, 2010. The Task Force requested to view the proposal. An electronic PDF copy will be sent to all Task Force members following the meeting.

In addition, the Task Force requested an electronic copy of the CEDV and IT proposals once in award. Copies will also be distributed electronically to members.

-The Child Abuse Identification Health Care Provider (IT) RFP currently scheduled for Reading and Rating is stalled at this time, as we are waiting for information from legal staff on how to proceed. The issue is that the RFP was posted to the website with only a partial rating form outlining the point breakout for the Problem Statement/Plan, and Implementation, however, absent the sections on Budget and Comprehensive Assessment.

Ellie Jones, Public Safety and Victim Services Division Chief, provided the Task Force with a Cal EMA update:

Ms. Jones informed the Task Force of the recent assignment of Matthew (Matt) Bettenhausen to the position of Agency Secretary and Gina Bucceri-Harrington to the position of Assistant Director, Office of Grants Management.

Ms. Jones informed that we are one step closer to finalizing an organizational chart as it is still pending since Cal EMA's merger with the Office of Homeland Security, in January, 2009.

Ms. Jones informed that Cal EMA has received the CJA award; that all is well programmatically and that all is status quo on the grants. Ms. Jones commented that we are waiting for the 2010-2011 Governor's Proposed Budget to be released, and added that Cal EMA receives a minimal amount in State General Funds amounting to 5% of the total budget. Ms. Jones discussed the issue of reverted funds and answered an inquiry from the Task Force regarding when we would know the amount of reverted funds. Ms. Jones responded that that information would have to wait until after the liquidation period and would probably be available to be reported by the March 4th Task Force Meeting.

Ms. Jones provided further explanation regarding the change in venue of the March 4th meeting from San Diego to Burbank and confirmed the date of the June 10th meeting in Sacramento.

IV. MINIMUM STANDARDS PROTOCOL & TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOPS - Sub-Committee Report and Recommendations

Cathy Stephenson indicated that a small sub-committee had met in Burbank on November 19, 2009. Ms. Stephenson provided the Task Force with history of the development of the Minimum Standards Protocol for the Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect in 1997 and the resulting statewide Transfer of Knowledge (TOK) Workshops in 2000. The issue at present, is developing a strategy to get practitioners to come to TOKs, and overcoming the larger hurdle of providing an incentive to encourage participants to work to update and/or

establish Minimum Standards Protocols. Much discussion centered on the subject. It was suggested that the subject might be broached for discussion and feedback by the Victim's Rights Committee at the next statewide California District Attorney's Association (CDAA) Meeting. Harry Elias, Board Chair suggested a mentoring effort as a possible alternative to the TOKs. Logistics, cost effectiveness, and the practicality of TOKs were discussed; the CJA budget allocation for this effort is \$37,081.

The Task Force reviewed the sub-committee's revisions to the Minimum Standards Protocol and implemented further revisions. Ms. Stephenson made a motion to approve changes to the Minimum Standards Protocol, motion seconded and passed.

The Task Force requested that Cal EMA attempt to locate copies of archived Minimum Standards Protocols from previous Child Abuse Vertical Prosecution (CAVP) grant funded projects and/or any others generated from the previous TOK workshops and make those available prior to the March 4th meeting.

In addition Task Force Members were asked to "tap" their own counties for information, regarding the existence and status/implementation of Minimum Standards Protocols. The following questions are to be asked and the information received to be reported back to Cal EMA prior to the March 4th meeting.

1. Is there a Multi-Disciplinary Investigative Interview Protocol? If yes, request a copy and a list of the participants.
2. Does it incorporate the Minimum Standards Protocols?
3. Are you following the Protocols?
4. What are the barriers to fully implementing the Protocols?
5. To what extent do you believe line personnel are familiar with and are implementing the Protocols?
6. Is there anyway that the Task Force can assist in tearing down existing barriers?

The information listed above is to be conveyed to the Task Force by Cal EMA in the form of an e-mail along with a copy of revised the Minimum Standards Protocol.

V. TRIBAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST (TS) PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

Dry Creek Rancheria- Percy Tehada

Mr. Tehada provided background information that the Dry Creek Rancheria is located in Sonoma County in Healdsburg and that it is not a land-based tribe. Mr. Tehada provided historical perspective regarding the development of tribal courts and the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Compliance. Mr. Tehada reported that the Tribal Resource Specialist Program (TS) is fully staffed,

however, that they had experienced some difficulty in staffing the project as the funding of the project did not materialize until several months into the year. Mr. Tejada reported that an obstacle that has not been easily overcome is that the agencies involved at the inception of the program were not ready to engage in Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) as required by Cal EMA. Mr. Tehada informed that the (TS) program has been a very good vehicle in relationship building, in the development of protocols for case management and tracking of ICWA cases. Case management protocols have been developed and a co-management style has been developed for the eventual successful transfer of cases to tribal court.

Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians – Luke Madrigal

Mr. Madrigal advised that this tribe is from the Temecula area. Mr. Madrigal reported that the (TR) Program has been helpful in establishing protocols with Riverside County, and is in the process of establishing the same in San Bernardino and San Diego Counties, for doing fostering and adoptions. He reported that the grant has provided the ability to focus on creating networks, operational agreements, and establishing collaborative efforts with the goal of providing services to "Indian kids". Mr. Madrigal reported that the tribal court is up and running and that ICWA cases are being tracked and managed. Mr. Madrigal reported difficulties with start up for the program which has resulted in cost savings.

3rd TR Program unable to attend– submitted written program information.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Mazuka announced that she had met with the legal staff over the lunch break and was cleared to proceed with the Reading and Rating of the Child Abuse Identification Health Care Provider (IT) RFP.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.